

PUBLICATIONS BY SUBSCRIPTION

Melbourne Institute Journal

Australian Economic Review

The *Australian Economic Review* specialises in economic topics that are of contemporary relevance to Australia. This is best illustrated by the Policy Forums where, in 2008, the topics covered were obesity, housing affordability, full employment and urban water. Sixteen contributed articles were published in the year and covered a diverse mix of topics. Two papers were invited. The Data Surveys and For the Student sections continued to play an important role in economic education. In 2009 the *Review* for the first time will be rated in the ISI citation count.

A summary of the composition of the articles published in the *Review* over the past four years is given in Table 1. Table 2 provides information on the number of contributed articles received and their disposition. There were 61 submissions in 2008, a 20 per cent increase over the number of submissions in 2007 but below the 2006 peak. The acceptance rate did not increase commensurately, so there has been an increase in the rejection rate. Over the four-year period 2005–2008 one-third of the papers submitted were accepted. The backlog of articles awaiting publication remains at a little over two issues.

Table 1 Published Articles, 2005 to 2008

| Type of article | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Invited Articles | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Contributed Articles | 12 | 15 | 14 | 16 |
| Policy Forum | 19 | 17 | 18 | 20 |
| Data Surveys | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| For the Student | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Pages | 469 | 456 | 470 | 455 |

Table 2 Submissions, 2005 to 2008 ^a

| Contributed papers | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|---|------|------|------|------|
| Brought forward from the previous year ^b | 28 | 26 | 26 | 29 |
| New submissions during the year | 59 | 68 | 50 | 61 |
| Total | 87 | 94 | 76 | 90 |
| Decisions made | | | | |
| Accepted: Published | 12 | 15 | 14 | 16 |
| Accepted: In queue | 3 | 5 | 8 | 10 |
| Rejected/withdrawn | 49 | 53 | 33 | 44 |
| Resubmit | 9 | 7 | 9 | 7 |
| In process | 14 | 14 | 12 | 13 |
| Total | 87 | 94 | 76 | 90 |

Notes: (a) Contributed articles only. (b) Sum of acceptances in the queue, re-submissions and articles in process.

Melbourne Institute Economic and Social Indicators

Westpac – Melbourne Institute Indexes of Economic Activity

Published monthly, the *Westpac – Melbourne Institute Indexes of Economic Activity* presents and examines movements in leading and coincident indicators of economic activity in Australia. Indexes of economic activity are designed to enhance the decision-making process of financial and business managers as well as policy makers by anticipating and identifying turning points in the economy. Each index blends several variables which reflect different aspects of the economy; their combination is intended to give a more representative picture than would any one variable by itself.

Westpac – Melbourne Institute Survey of Consumer Sentiment

The Consumer Sentiment Index is an average of five component indexes which reflect consumers' evaluations of their household financial situation over the past year and the coming year, anticipated economic conditions over the coming year and the next five years, and buying conditions for major household items. Assessments about future unemployment are also recorded. This report is produced monthly.

Westpac – Melbourne Institute Survey of Consumer Sentiment: NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia

Key consumer sentiment data are published in relation to New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia. This report is produced monthly.

Melbourne Institute Survey of Consumer Inflationary Expectations

The consumer inflationary expectations measures are designed to represent the average householder's expected rate of consumer price changes over the coming 12 months. The survey produces a direct measure of inflationary expectations as consumers are asked whether, and by how much, they believe prices will go up or down. This report is produced monthly.

Melbourne Institute Wages Report

This report records employees' (self-reported) pay changes over the previous 12-month period and their expected wages in the year ahead. This survey has been designed to capture the growth in pay. It adds to our knowledge about wages and complements the ABS labour cost index. This report is produced quarterly.

Melbourne Institute Household Saving and Investment Report

This survey-based report contains information about households' current and future saving behaviour, their reasons for saving, the structure of household assets and debts, and households' assessments of the best ways to invest savings. This report is produced quarterly.

Melbourne Institute Monthly Bulletin of Economic Trends

This report provides forecasts of the state of the Australian economy. Variables forecasted include the growth in GDP, consumption and the unemployment rate as well as the outlook for inflation, the 90-day bill rate and the exchange rate. The forecasts are generated using econometric techniques which combine both historical information and forward information contained in, for example, consumer expectations, leading indexes of economic activity, and financial futures. The monthly updates of forecasts for the ensuing four quarters provide information in advance of official quarterly data.

TD Securities – Melbourne Institute Monthly Inflation Gauge

TD Securities and the Melbourne Institute have developed a monthly inflation indicator to give markets and policy makers a monthly update on inflation trends. Based on the methodology used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to calculate the quarterly consumer price index, this publication estimates month-to-month price movements for a wide-ranging basket of goods and services across the main capital cities of Australia. This report is produced monthly.

Manpower – Melbourne Institute Employment Report

This report provides forecasts of the growth in employment for Australia and the states of Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland,



Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania. The forecasts are based on a time series model which utilises historical information as well as exclusive forward information contained in surveys conducted by the Melbourne Institute and Manpower. The report contains both point and interval forecasts of expected employment. This report is updated monthly.

Poverty Lines: Australia

Poverty Lines: Australia is a quarterly newsletter that updates the Henderson Poverty Line as defined in the 1973 Commonwealth Commission of Inquiry into Poverty. It is standard reference material for those concerned with social welfare policy in Australia. Minimum income levels required to avoid a situation of poverty are presented for a range of family sizes and circumstances. The updated poverty lines take into account changes in the average income level of all Australians, reflecting the idea that poverty is relative. Each issue includes a table indicating changes in the purchasing power of the poverty lines and a table comparing welfare payment levels with poverty lines for various family types.

Other Melbourne Institute Publications

Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey Annual Report 2008

The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey is Australia's major nationally representative household panel survey. This document summarises activity undertaken on the HILDA Survey project during 2008.

Families, Incomes and Jobs, Volume 3: A Statistical Report on Waves 1 to 5 of the HILDA Survey

The aim of the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey is to provide, on an annual basis, a new type of social statistics for Australia — longitudinal panel statistics describing the ways in which people's lives are changing. The report contains short reports and statistical tables covering the four main areas of HILDA: households and family life, incomes and wealth, employment and unemployment/joblessness, and life satisfaction and well-being. Particular emphasis is given to the persistence of problems over the first five years of the HILDA Survey (for example, the persistence of poverty over five years).

R&D and Intellectual Property Scoreboard 2008

This publication is the most comprehensive assessment to date of the innovative activities of large Australian enterprises. The report will be released in 2009 and provides an invaluable information source for benchmarking and competitor analysis. The innovative activities covered by the report include the latest available information on the level of R&D and applications for intellectual property. The report includes an innovation index, ranking Australia's most innovative firms; R&D expenditure and intensity rankings for parent companies; the level and intensity of intellectual property applications for parent companies; and industry listings.

Australian Patent Applications Scoreboard 2008

The *Australian Patent Applications Scoreboard* is a comprehensive collection

of data about the number of patent applications made in Australia each year. It provides a useful reference across a number of disciplines and industries. The Scoreboard is a useful tool for enterprises that facilitate the commercialisation of research projects. For example, it allows users to see at a glance the areas of technology where patent activity is highest in 2007, and activity going back ten years.

IBM® – Melbourne Institute 'Innovation Index of Australian Industry'

The *IBM® – Melbourne Institute 'Innovation Index of Australian Industry'* tracks patterns in the rate of innovative activity among Australian businesses (including government trading enterprises but not the non-trading government sector such as education) since 1990. It includes the intensity of innovations in relation to goods and services, technical operations, and organisational, managerial and marketing functions. The second edition was released in 2008.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Melbourne Institute Asialink Index 2008

The PricewaterhouseCoopers Melbourne Institute Asialink Index measures the level of engagement between Australia and Asia over the period 1990–2007 along seven dimensions: trade, investment, tourism, education, research and development, humanitarian assistance and migration.

Melbourne Institute Working Paper Series

The Melbourne Institute working papers are indicative of research projects undertaken within the Melbourne Institute. In 2008, 25 working papers were produced.

Melbourne Institute Reports

The Melbourne Institute publishes ad hoc reports on important economic and social topics investigated by Melbourne Institute researchers.

Melbourne Institute News

This quarterly newsletter was introduced in late 1999 to keep people abreast of various developments at the Melbourne Institute. Articles cover a range of items from the major research programs, the HILDA Survey, the MABEL Survey, conferences, forums and seminars.